

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Ravi F. Saraf

Application No.: To be Assigned

Group Art Unit: To be Assigned

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: To be Assigned

For: SYNTHESIS OF CHEMICAL TAGS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

*Please amend the specification as follows:*

*On page 1, after the title, please insert the following paragraph:*

**--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/916,439, filed July 30, 2001, now allowed, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/668,140, filed September 25, 2000, now abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/154,584, filed September 17, 1998, now abandoned, all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.--